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NOV 20 2006

Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-20 (cancelled).

21 (New): A method of modulating an activity of a cell that expresses a naturally occurring human IL-17RE protein, comprising contacting the cell with a binding composition, wherein the binding composition comprises an antigen binding site of an antibody that specifically binds to a naturally occurring human IL-17C protein and blocks binding of the IL-17C protein to the IL-17RE protein.

22 (New): The method of Claim 21, wherein the activity is cytokine expression.

23 (New): The method of Claim 21, wherein the binding composition comprises:

- a) a polyclonal antibody;
- b) a monoclonal antibody;
- c) a humanized antibody;
- d) an Fab, Fv, or F(ab')₂ fragment; or
- e) a peptide mimetic of an antibody.

24 (New): The method of Claim 23, wherein the binding composition comprises a humanized antibody.

25 (New): The method of Claim 21, wherein the cell is in a subject suffering from a disorder comprising:

- a) psoriasis;
- b) an inflammatory bowel disorder (IBD);
- c) an interstitial lung disorder;
- d) asthma or allergy; or

e) atherosclerosis, and
wherein contacting the cell comprises administering to the subject an effective amount of the binding composition.

26 (New): The method of Claim 25, wherein the disorder is psoriasis.

27 (New): The method of Claim 25, wherein the disorder is an interstitial lung disorder which is selected from the group consisting of:

- a) idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis;
- b) eosinophilic granuloma; and
- c) hypersensitivity pneumonitis.

28 (New): The method of Claim 27, wherein the disorder is hypersensitivity pneumonitis.

29 (New): The method of Claim 25, wherein the disorder is an IBD which is selected from the group consisting of:

- a) Crohn's disease; and
- b) ulcerative colitis.

30 (New): The method of Claim 29, wherein the disorder is Crohn's disease.

31 (New): The method of Claim 25, wherein the disorder is asthma or allergy.

32 (New): The method of Claim 25, wherein the disorder is atherosclerosis.